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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/803,621	03/18/2004	Michael Page	282569US8X	5821
22850	7590	06/29/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.			PERILLA, JASON M	
1940 DUKE STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			2611	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/29/2007		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/803,621	PAGE, MICHAEL
	Examiner Jason M. Perilla	Art Unit 2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2004.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1 and 23-27 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 2-22 and 28-31 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-31 are pending in the instant application.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on January 26, 2006 and March 18, 2004 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

### ***Priority***

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Specification***

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1 and 23-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Page (“MAC-DSD Multi-channel Audio Connection for DSD”, version 1.1, November 1, 2002 – 2004 IDS Paper Ref. “AR”).

Regarding claim 1, Page discloses, according to figures 2, 3, and 5, a data communications system for communicating a data signal (“DSD”) formed of successive

data elements, said system comprising a transmission node (fig. 2); a reception node (fig. 3); and a link ("Category 5 cable") providing a data connection from said transmission node to said reception node; said transmission node comprising: (i) a clocking-signal transmitter (fig. 2, "Low-pass filter", "Differential line driver", and "Clock") for transmitting a synchronization clocking signal to said reception node via said link, said synchronization clocking signal having synchronizing features occurring at a frequency lower (i.e. 64fs) than a data element rate (i.e. 576fs; fig. 5); and (ii) an assembler (figs. 3 or 5, "PHY") for assembling elements of said data signal into data frames, each data frame having a plurality of successive data elements of said data signal, for transmission to said reception node via said link, said assembler being responsive to said synchronization clocking signal (fig. 5, ref. "PLL") so as to set a synchronization flag associated with a data element having a first predetermined temporal relationship with a synchronizing feature of said synchronization clocking signal (pg. 14, "Frame Types" and "Frame Flags"; pg. 18); and said reception node (fig. 3, ) comprising: (i) a detector (fig. 3, "Comparator") for detecting a synchronizing feature of said synchronization clocking signal received from said transmission node; (ii) a disassembler (fig. 3, "PHY") for disassembling received data frames to regenerate said data signal, said disassembler being operable to detect a data element associated with a set synchronization flag (pg. 18); (iii) an output unit (fig. 3, "MAC-DSD") for outputting a data element associated with a set synchronization flag at a second predetermined temporal relationship with respect to said synchronizing feature of said received synchronization clocking signal (pg. 12); said first and second predetermined temporal

relationships being arranged so that a predetermined system latency exists between input of a data element to said transmission node and subsequent output of that data element by said reception node (pg. 13).

Regarding claims 23-27, Page discloses the limitations of the claim as applied to claim 1 above.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 2-22 and 28-31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following prior art references not relied upon above are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to audio data communication.

U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0213693 to Page.

U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0078683 to Page.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Perilla whose telephone number is (571) 272-3055. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh M. Fan can be reached on (571) 272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Jason M. Perilla  
June 18, 2007

jmp



CHIEH M. FAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER